

Appln No. 09/608,970
Amdt. Dated October 17, 2003
Reply to Office action of July 15, 2003

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of collecting a copyright fee relating to a document when a user obtains, via coded data disposed in or on a surface, the document, the coded data being indicative of an identity of a region of the surface and of a plurality of reference points of the region, the method including, in a computer system, the steps of:

recording, in a copyright database, at least one copyright ownership relating to at least one portion of the document;

receiving, from a sensing device, indicating data indicative of ~~a request for the document~~ the identity of the region and of a position of the sensing device relative to the region, the sensing device, when placed in an operative position relative to the surface, generating the indicating data using at least some of the coded data;

identifying, from the indicating data, ~~the a request for the document~~;

retrieving the document from a document database;

providing the document to the user;

identifying, in the copyright database ~~and from the indicating data~~, the copyright ownership relating to the document;

determining the copyright fee from the at least one copyright ownership; and

debiting a user account associated with the user in the amount of the copyright fee.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, including the further step of crediting at least one owner account associated with the at least one copyright ownership in the amount of the copyright fee.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, including the further step of printing the document.

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4. (Original) The method of claim 1, including the further steps of:

receiving, from the sensing device, identity data indicative of an identity of the user, the sensing device containing the identity data; and

identifying, from the identity data, the user account.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A system for collecting a copyright fee relating to a document when a user obtains, via coded data disposed in or on a surface, the document, the coded data being indicative of an identity of a region of the surface and of a plurality of reference points of the region, the system including:

a copyright database for recording at least one copyright ownership relating to at least one portion of the document;

a document database for storing the document;

a receiver for receiving, from a sensing device, indicating data indicative of a ~~request for the document~~ the identity of the region and of a position of the sensing device relative to the region, the sensing device, when placed in an operative position relative to the surface, generating the indicating data using at least some of the coded data; and

a processor;

the processor being configured to:

identify, from the indicating data, ~~the~~ a request for the document;

retrieve the document from the document database;

provide the document to the user;

identify, in the copyright database ~~and from the indicating data~~, the copyright ownership relating to the document;

determine the copyright fee from the at least one copyright ownership; and

debit a user account associated with the user in the amount of the copyright fee.

7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the processor is further configured to credit at least one owner account associated with the at least one copyright ownership in the amount of the copyright fee.

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8. (Original) The system of claim 6, further including a printer for printing the document.

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9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 6, wherein the processor is further configured to:

receive, from the sensing device and via the receiver, identity data indicative of an identity of the user, the sensing device containing the identity data; and

identify, using the identity data, the user account.

10. (Cancelled)